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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	CA-02	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	DS-00	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16
	L-03	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06	OIC-02	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00
	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	ASDS-01	RPE-01	/050W	
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P 011537Z DEC 93  
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5160  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 KIGALI 04250

BUJUMBURA FOR RSO  
YAOUNDE FOR DAO  
PARIS FOR PERLOW

E.O. 12356: OADR:DECL  
TAGS: PINS, ASEC, CASC, PINR, PGOV, MOPS, RW  
SUBJECT: UNCERTAINTY PERSISTS AFTER MUTURA-KABATWA  
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INCIDENT; GOR-RPF COMMISSIONS MEET

REF: (A) KIGALI 4221, (B) KIGALI 4211, (C) KIGALI 4098,  
(D) KIGALI 4169

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. DESPITE RECENT SECURITY INCIDENTS IN THE  
NORTH, THE GOR AND RPF CONTINUE WITH THEIR SCHEDULED  
MEETINGS. UNAMIR INVESTIGATES MUTURA-KABATWA INCIDENT,  
YET UNCERTAINTY AND CONTRADICTIONS PERSIST AS TO WHO IS

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RESPONSIBLE AND HOW MANY ARE DEAD. PANIC SUBSIDES AMONG THE CIVILIAN AND MILITARY POPULATIONS IN AND AROUND GISENYI AND RUHENGERI. RED CROSS AGENCIES SUSPEND OPERATIONS IN DMZ. EMBASSY STRENGTHENS COMMUNICATIONS LINKS WITH AMCITS. END SUMMARY.

DESPITE RECENT INCIDENTS, GOR AND RPF CONTINUE MEETINGS  
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3. AS ANNOUNCED BY THE PRIME MINISTER (REFTEL D), JOINT GOR-RPF SESSIONS RESUMED THIS WEEK, DESPITE ACCUSATIONS OF AN RPF ATTACK IN MUTURA. THE JOINT MILITARY

COMMISSION ON DEMOBILIZATION MET 29 NOVEMBER. THE GOVERNMENT, RPF, AND NGO AND DONOR REPRESENTATIVES MET 30 NOVEMBER TO DISCUSS DEMOBILIZATION ISSUES UNDER UNDP AUSPICES. DURING POL/MILOFF AND ECONOFF'S MEETING AT THE

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MINISTRY OF DEFENSE ON TUESDAY, 30 NOVEMBER, THE OFFICERS PRESENT AT MONDAY'S MEETING SEEMED UNFAZED BY THE GENERAL PANIC IN THE NORTH AND PLANNED TO CONTINUE THEIR DISCUSSION AS SCHEDULED.

UNCERTAINTY PERSISTS IN THE MUTURA-KABATWA INCIDENT  
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4. THE IDENTITY OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INCIDENT IN MUTURA REMAINS UNCLEAR. GENERAL DALLAIRE IS TRAVELLING TO MUTURA TODAY TO INVESTIGATE. NO INFORMATION HAS YET REACHED US ON THE RESULTS OF THE FAR INVESTIGATION. IN THE MEANTIME, SEVERAL THEORIES HAVE BEEN CIRCULATING THROUGHOUT KIGALI AS TO WHAT ACTUALLY OCCURRED AND WHO MASTERMINDED THE ATTACK (IF IT WAS AN ATTACK AT ALL). FRENCH SOURCES SAID THE FAR BELIEVES AN RPF BATTALION (600 SOLDIERS OR SO) WAS INVOLVED. THE FRENCH, ON THE OTHER HAND, ESTIMATE FROM 30 RPF SOLDIERS UP TO A COMPANY (120) WERE INVOLVED. THE BELGIANS, HOWEVER, SAY THEY CANNOT CONFIRM THAT THE RPF WAS IN THE AREA, MUCH LESS THAT THERE WAS AN ATTACK OR AN ENCOUNTER BETWEEN THE FAR AND RPF. AS ANOTHER THEORY, RWANDAN GOVERNMENT RADIO ANNOUNCED LATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON THAT THE INCIDENT IN MUTURA WAS PERPETRATED BY BANDITS. OTHER

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DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY POSTULATE THAT WHAT APPEARED TO BE AN ATTACK WAS REALLY TWO RWANDAN MILITARY PATROLS RUNNING INTO EACH OTHER IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

5. INFORMATION ON THE OFFICIAL NUMBER DEAD IS CONTRADICTORY. THE BBC REPORTED DECEMBER 1, THAT 18  
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RWANDANS WERE DEAD IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE  
MUTURA-KABATWA INCIDENT. ICRC SOURCES SAID THAT 17 WERE  
DEAD, 7 DISAPPEARED AND 2 WOUNDED AND THE CAUSE OF DEATH  
WAS UNKNOWN YET. RWANDAN GOVERNMENT RADIO SAID THAT 17  
PERSONS (ALL WOMEN AND CHILDREN) DIED OF GUNSHOT  
WOUNDS. THE KARISOKE RESEARCH STAFF WHO TRAVELLED DOWN  
FROM KARISOKE EARLY YESTERDAY MORNING TOLD ECONOFF THAT  
VILLAGERS IN KINIGI WERE SAYING THAT 18 WOMEN AND  
CHILDREN WERE TRAMPLED TO DEATH WHEN THE CIVILIANS

LIVING AROUND THE BASE OF KARISIMBI FLED THEIR HOMES AT  
THE FIRST SOUND OF GUNSHOTS. THE EMBASSY IS WAITING FOR  
CONFIRMATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT AS TO THE OFFICIAL  
NUMBER OF DEAD AND THE CAUSE OF DEATH.

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P 011537Z DEC 93  
 FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5161  
 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY  
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CIVILIANS AND MILITARY PANIC

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6. IN THE WAKE OF THE MUTURA-KABATWA INCIDENT, THE CIVILIAN POPULATION IN AND AROUND GISENYI AND RUHENGERI REMAINS NERVOUS AND TENSE. MANY FLED THEIR HOMES. A FRENCH DIPLOMAT PROVIDED AN EXPLANATION FOR THE PANIC GRIPPING THE RUHENGERI AREA: ON 30 NOVEMBER, VILLAGERS NEAR RUHENGERI CLAIM TO HAVE SEEN AN RPF PATROL PASSING BETWEEN LAKE BULERA AND LAKE RUHONDO MOVING ON TOWARD RUHENGERI. ACCORDING TO THE DIPLOMAT, THE FRENCH MILITARY BELIEVE THAT THIS PATROL WAS SENT TO RETRIEVE THE ALLEGED RENEGADE RPF UNIT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MUTURA - KABATWA INCIDENT.

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7. THE GENERAL PANIC ALSO APPARENTLY AFFECTED THE MILITARY IN RUHENGARI. THE FRENCH MILITARY REPORTED GUNSHOTS IN AND AROUND RUHENGARI AROUND 10:00 A.M. AN AMERICAN CRS WORKER REPORTED THE SAME WHEN A MEETING SHE WAS ATTENDING IN RUHENGARI ABRUPTLY ENDED BECAUSE OF THE DISTURBANCE. LATER, THE FRENCH REPORTED THAT THE GUNSHOTS HAD BEEN CAUSED BY FRIGHTENED FAR SOLDIERS NEWLY ARRIVED IN THE REGION IN RESPONSE TO THE INCIDENT OF THE PRECEDING NIGHT. (COMMENT: THE EMBASSY SPECULATES THAT THE THREE BUS-LOADS OF SOLDIERS THAT WERE DISPATCHED TO RUHENGARI EARLY MONDAY MORNING (REF A) MAY HAVE BEEN NEWER RECRUITS WHO WERE INVOLVED IN THE ACCIDENTAL SHOOTINGS. END COMMENT.)

RED CROSS SUSPENDS DMZ OPERATIONS  
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8. THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND THE BELGIAN RED CROSS HAVE SUSPENDED ASSISTANCE OPERATIONS IN THE DMZ BECUASE OF THE RECENT SECURITY INCIDENTS (INCLUDING THE RADIO REMOTE CONTROLLED BOMBING OF THE BELGIAN RED CROSS TRUCK ON NOVEMBER 26 ). CRS IS ONE OF THE FEW ORGANIZATIONS LEFT DISTRIBUTING FOOD IN THE DMZ, ALTHOUGH THE BELGIAN RED CROSS IS CONTINUING ITS WORK IN THE BYUMBA TOWN HOSPITAL.

9. ACCORDING TO THE BELGIAN CONSULAR OFFICER, ALL FOREIGNERS WERE ASKED TO LEAVE RUHENGARI YESTERDAY BY THE COMMANDANT OF THE RUHENGARI SECTOR. ALL BELGIAN EXPATRIATES IN THE AREA WENT TO THE ETIRU FLOUR MILL JUST OUTSIDE OF TOWN FOR THE DAY AND RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES THIS MORNING. (NO FRENCH OR AMERICANS WERE AFFECTED BY THE COMMANDANT'S ORDER SINCE NONE OF THOSE REGISTERED WITH EITHER EMBASSY ARE CURRENTLY LIVING IN RUHENGARI.)

10. IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE SECURITY CONCERNS OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION, THE HEAD OF THE ARMY GENERAL STAFF FLEW BY HELICOPTER TO SURVEY THE AREA. IN ADDITION TO UNAMIR'S INVESTIGATIVE TEAM, THE GENDARMERIE ALSO DISPATCHED OFFICERS TO THE MUTURA AND KABATWA AREA. THE EMBASSY IS AWAITING REPORTS FROM ALL THREE SOURCES.

11. UNAMIR IS ALSO LOOKING INTO THE ALLEGATIONS THAT

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RWANDAN GOVERNMENT TROOPS WERE CAMPED ON THE BISOKE  
VOLCANO SUNDAY NIGHT, 28 NOVEMBER. THE DIRECTOR OF THE  
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KARISOKE RESEARCH STATION TRAVELLED UP WITH AN UNAMIR  
TEAM EARLY TODAY. THE PRESENCE OF GOVERNMENT TROOPS IN  
THE VOLCANO NATIONAL PARK MAY TIE IN WITH THE INCIDENT  
AT MUTURA, JUST 5 KILOMETERS OUTSIDE THE PARK'S LIMITS.

12. ALTHOUGH THE SECURITY OF AMCITS IS NOT DIRECTLY THREATENED BY RECENT INCIDENTS, THE EMBASSY, NONETHELESS HAS TAKEN STEPS TO ENSURE THAT ITS AMERICAN WARDEN LIST IS CURRENT AND THAT ITS HIGH-FREQUENCY RADIO NET WITH THE PRIVATE AMERICANS LIVING OUTSIDE KIGALI IS

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OPERATIONAL. WITHIN KIGALI, THE ADMIN OFFICER IS  
CURRENTLY WORKING TO GET THE EMBASSY INCLUDED ON THE EEC  
RADIO NET. ALL AMERICANS REGISTERED WITH THE EMBASSY ARE  
CURRENTLY SAFE AND ACCOUNTED FOR, INCLUDING THE KARISOKE  
RESEARCH STAFF WHICH PLANS TO STAY IN KIGALI UNTIL THE  
SITUATION IN THE NORTH SETTLES DOWN. LEADER

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